

Message Text

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ACTION AGR-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-07 /033 W

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R 062241Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8752

INFO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

UNCLAS MANAGUA 0053

SAN SALVADOR FOR AGATT

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EAGR, EAID, NU

SUBJECT: MEET A GON ASKS FOR MEAT GRADING EXPERT

REFS: 75 MANAGUA 3866, 75 STATE 243565, 75 SAN SALVADOR 4255,

1. IN THE REFERENCED TELEGRAMS, THE EMBASSY ON BEHALF OF THE NICARAGUAN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE ASKED HOW NICARAGUAN BEEF EXPORTS COULD BE ASSIGNED A HIGHER QUALITY STANDARD IN THE U.S. THE REPLIES WERE THAT THE USG DOES NOT APPLY U.S. GRADES TO MEAT IMPORTS AND THAT THE YELLOW SHEET PRICE PAID NICARAGUAN RANCHERS BY MEAT PROCESSORS DID NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT PRICES RECEIVED BY PROCESSORS FROM US IMPORTERS. THIS LATTER HAS PROVEN TO BE THE CASE.

2. KLAUS SENGELMANN, MINISTER KF AGRICULTURE, ANDMPHE CATTLE ASSOCIATION WISH TO INTRODUCE A GRADING SYSTEM IN NICARAGUA TO ENABLE THEPRODUCERS OF BETTER QUALITY BEEF TO OBTAIN BETTER PRICES FROM PROCESSORS. THEY WISH THE GRADES TO BE BASED ON THE US SYSTEM SO THAT IMPORTERS OVER TIME WILL BE WILLING TO PAY COMPARABLE PRICES. PRODUCERS BELIEVE THAT A RESPECTABLE PERCENTAGE OF MEAT HERE COULD BE CLASSIFIED EQUIVALENT TO US STANDARD.

3. THE MINISTER HAS ASKED THE EMBASSY TO ASSIST INOBTAINING A US EXPERT IN BEEF GRADING TO INVESTIGATE WHETHER NICARAGUA WOULD BENEFIT FROM A GRADING SYSTEM. FEE AND COSTS WOULD BE UNCLASSIFIED

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PAID BY CATTLEMEN ASSOCIATION.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE ASSISTANCE IN LOCATING EXPERT WILLING
UNDERTAKE SHORT-TERM ASSIGNMENT IN NICARAGUA. SOME KNOWLEDGE
OF SPANISH WOULD BE HELPFUL. BREEDS RAISED IN NICARAGUA ARE
PRIMARILY BRAHMAN/CEBU (INCLUDING INDO-BRAZIL, GUSERAT,
NELORE, AND RED SINHDI), JAMIACA RED, AND SOME SANTA
GERTRUDIS AND CHAROLOISE. SUGGEST USDA SPECIALIST ON
REIMBURSABLE BASIS IF POSSIBLE. IF NOT, PERHAPS AID/W COULD
LOCATE PRIVATE CONSULTANT.
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